



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: G. PEREZ

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Each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication received from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action mailed on February 4, 2003 is enclosed.

Roger T. Frost - Reg. No. 22,176

The citation of this information does not constitute an admission of priority or that any cited item is available as a reference, or a waiver of any right the applicant may have under applicable statutes, Rules of Practice in patent cases, or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger T. Frost", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Our Docket:44471/234042 (13700-0238)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/579,294
Filing Date	May 25, 2000
First Named Inventor	Kenichi Sugiyama
Group Art Unit	2834
Examiner Name	G. Perez
Attorney Docket Number	144471/234042 (13700-0238)

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent document, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.